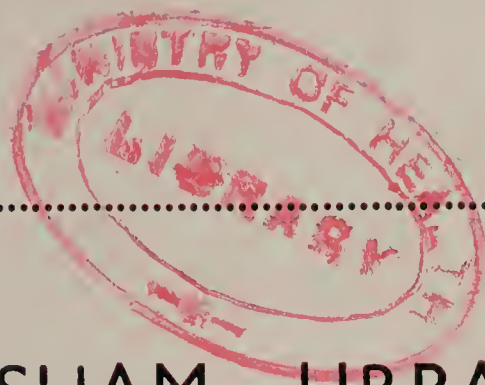


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KEYNSHAM URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

1st APRIL TO 31st DECEMBER

1938.



KEYNSHAM URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

---


ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS:-

Medical Officer of Health	—	T. AUBREY, M.B., London.
Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector	—	H. W. ARGILE, M.Inst., M. & Cy.E., A.R.S.I., Chartered Surveyor.
Surveyor's Assistant	—	D. F. G. LOCKYEAR.
Clerk to the Council	—	GEO. R. ASHTON, F.C.C.S., F.I.P.A.

1st APRIL to 31st DECEMBER  
1938.



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BITTON,  
BRISTOL.

August, 1939.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. SMITH AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting you with my report for 1938. It is, perhaps, a little short, but you must bear in mind the District is a newly-formed one, and that I had the privilege of being with you only for just over five months, being appointed *pro tem* after the death of your first Medical Officer of Health, the late Dr. Maurice Harper.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA.

### General Statistics.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	4,170
Population, Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	5,335
Population, Estimated, 1938	...	...	...	...	6,130
Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	1,964
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£48,251
Sum represented by 1d. rate in 1938	...	...	...	...	£191

### Social Conditions.

There are factories manufacturing cocoa and chocolate, paper and envelopes, situated in the area, together with smaller factories for ochre, water softening material, chemicals, etc.

Many residents find employment in the adjoining City of Bristol, and on the other hand, large numbers of people from Bristol are employed at the foregoing factories. For these latter, 3 special trains are run daily.

Unemployment was of small proportions during the year.

### Vital Statistics.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live births	53	31	22	
Legitimate	51	30	21	
Illegitimate	2	1	1	
Birth rate				11.53
Birth rate for England & Wales				15.1
Still births	Nil			
Still birth rate for England & Wales				.60
Deaths	64	27	37	
Death rate				12.92
Death rate for England & Wales				11.6
Deaths from Puerperal causes :—				
From Puerperal Sepsis	Nil			
Other Puerperal causes	Nil			
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births :—				
Legitimate				19.61
Illegitimate				Nil
Total				18.87

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	12
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	Nil

No causes of sickness or invalidity worthy of special note have arisen in your area during the past nine months; nor have there been any conditions of occupation or environment prejudicial to the General Health.

**CAUSES OF DEATH IN KEYNSHAM URBAN DISTRICT, 1938.  
(NINE MONTHS ONLY)**

Causes of Deaths								M.	F.
TOTAL, ALL CAUSES								27	37
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6 Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
7 Encephalitis Lethergica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
11 Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	9
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
16 Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	9
17 Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
21 Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
22 Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
23 Diarrhoea, &c., (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
24 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
25 Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
26 Other Diseases of Liver, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
27 Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
29 Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
30 Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
32 Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
33 Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
34 Other Violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
35 Other defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year								—	1
{ Total Legitimate								—	1
TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS								31	22
Legitimate								30	21
Illegitimate								1	1
TOTAL STILL BIRTHS								—	—
Legitimate								—	—
Illegitimate								—	—
POPULATION (Resident) estimated to middle of 1938								6,130	



INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1938. (9 MONTHS).

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	over 45
SMALL POX ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SCARLET FEVER ...	12	11	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	2	2	1	...	...
DIPHTHERIA ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
ENTERIC FEVER ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PUERPERAL PYREXIA ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
ERYSIPELAS ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
ACUTE POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PNEUMONIA ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
DYSENTERY ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
TOTALS ...	19	12	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	2	3	4	...	3

## Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been found necessary.

## Tuberculosis.

One transferable death was registered as tuberculosis, but the case did not appear on our register. This does not reflect upon efficiency of the notification, as the immediate cause of death was given as Bronchiectasis. This makes the ratio of new and notified tuberculosis deaths 1.4.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 Year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	1	2	...	...	...	1	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and over	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
TOTALS	...	1	2	...	1	1	1	...

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### 1. Public Health Staff, 1938, Council Offices, Keynsham.

Medical Officer of Health :

T. AUBREY, M.B., London (part time).

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

H. W. ARGILE, M.Inst., M. & Cy.E.A.R.S.I.,  
Chartered Surveyor.

Surveyor's Assistant :

D. F. G. LOCKYEAR.



## **2. (a) Laboratory Facilities.**

Sputa and swabs are examined for the local practitioners at the County Laboratory at Taunton, and the Institute of Preventive Medicine, University of Bristol.

There are two depots from which anti-toxin can be obtained :— one at the Council Offices, and one at the Public Institution, Keynsham. It is stocked in phials containing the minimum dose advised by the Ministry of Health.

Such other Analytical and Bacteriological work as is necessary for the Public Health Administration including analysis of water, milk and food stuff, is carried out at the County Laboratories at Taunton.

## **(b) Ambulance Facilities.**

A motor ambulance is available for infectious cases at the Paulton Joint Isolation Hospital.

Other ambulance services are provided (through arrangements made by the Local Authority) by Bristol City and Marine Ambulance and Bath City Brigade, and these services appear to work satisfactorily.

## **(c) Nursing in the Home.**

Home Nursing is carried out by the Somerset County Nursing Association, and no general nurses are employed by the Local Authority.

There are two resident nurses in the District, both of whom are qualified midwives.

## **(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.**

Tuberculosis work is served by clinics at Bristol, Bath and Radstock.

V.D. cases can either go to the clinic at Bristol or Bath, or to the County Council clinic at Radstock.

## **(e) Hospitals.**

Infectious cases are sent to the Joint Isolation Hospital at Paulton.

Tuberculosis cases are treated at the County Sanatorium (Quantock). Chronic cases at the Public Assistance Institution, Keynsham; Mental cases at the County Mental Hospital, Wells; Ear, throat and nose cases at the special departments of the Bristol Royal Infirmary, Bristol General Hospital and Bath Royal United Hospital.

Puerperal fever and pyrexia are treated, when necessary, at the special departments of the Bristol Royal Infirmary, the Bristol General Hospital and Bath Royal United Hospital.

Ophthalmia neonatorum is treated at the special departments of the Bristol Royal Infirmary, Bristol General Hospital, Bath Royal United Hospital, or at Bristol Eye Hospital, Bristol Eye Dispensary or Bristol Eye Infirmary.

The Bristol Royal Infirmary, the Bristol General Hospital and the Bath Royal United Hospital are staffed by practitioners of consulting rank, and have special departments for ophthalmic work, ear, nose and throat, dental, X-ray and massage. The two former have well-equipped Maternity Departments.

Hospitals available for general sickness (not in the District and not subsidised by the Local Authority) are :—

Bristol Royal Infirmary—medical, surgical and special departments.

Bristol General Hospital—medical, surgical and special departments.

Bristol Hospital for Sick Women and Children.

Bristol Eye Hospital.

Bristol Eye Dispensary.

Royal United Hospital, Bath—medical, surgical and special departments.

Royal Mineral Hospital, Bath—cases suitable for treatment with mineral waters.

The Eye Infirmary, Bath.

Bristol Orthopaedic Hospital.

The following Convalescent Homes are also available :—

Queen Victoria Convalescent Home, Bristol.

The Sanatorium, Weston-super-Mare.

The Children's Convalescent Home, Weston-super-Mare.

Belmont (for Women), Clevedon.

Victoria (for Men), Clevedon.

St. Mary's (for Men and Women), Walton, near Clevedon.

### **3. Maternity and Child Welfare.**

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, the care of Mental Defectives, etc., is arranged by the County Council, who also administer the Maternity and Child Welfare services, Health Visitors, Child Life Protection, and arrangements for Dental, Orthopaedic, etc., cases.

There are two Nursing Homes in the District—the Grange at Bath Road, and Clovelly at West View Road. The latter takes maternity cases.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

### **Water.**

The Urban District is in the area of supply of the West Gloucestershire Water Company, and all except the outlying or scattered houses have a piped supply.

The water is analysed quarterly and the results have proved satisfactory as regards bacteriological examination.

It is somewhat hard, but is within the stipulated limit of 18 degrees.

There was no shortage of water in the public supply at any time.

An analysis of water in one of the private wells showed the water to be unsatisfactory for drinking, and the well was condemned. A supply has now been taken from a public main recently laid past the property.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

New sewers laid totalled 1,130 yards, as follows:—

By the Local Authority—15-in. storm water sewer	...	293	yds.
By estate developers, etc.—6-in. soil sewer	...	393	„
9-in. storm water sewer	...	108	„
6-in. storm water sewer	...	336	„
<hr/>			
Total	...	1130	yds.
<hr/>			

To relieve congestion by storm water in the western area, an overflow was constructed, together with a 15-in. diameter storm water overflow sewer, and this appears to have satisfactorily prevented overcharging of the Hams sewer.

A length of 1,492 yds. of new soil drains were laid, being 1,216 yds. of 6-in., and 1,263 yds. of 4-in. diameter, all of which was tested by smoke or water. In addition, 13 yds. of 4-in. surface water drain were laid and inspected.

All the built-up or developing areas of the District are served by sewers, but in certain parts of the District these are reaching their limit of satisfactory service, particularly at the eastern end, where old highway drains still do duty for sewers, and it is satisfactory to know that the Council has appointed a consulting engineer to report upon the sewerage of the District following upon a report of your Surveyor as to the present system.

### **Rivers and Streams.**

The River Avon flows through the District from east to west, and its tributary, the River Chew, from south to north, and these still produce widespread flooding in prolonged periods of very wet weather—mainly over pasture land, etc.

The brooks are comparatively free from pollution.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

Practically the whole of the District is on the water carriage system.



## Public Cleansing.

Collection of house refuse has been continued weekly in the former parish of Keynsham, and the collection increased from monthly to fortnightly in the former parish of Saltford.

The tips are kept under supervision by your Inspector and dressed periodically with rat poison. The Saltford tip is rapidly filling, and in view of its restricted use, need not be retained.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Nature of Inspection				No. of Visits
GENERAL SANITATION	{	Drainage ... ..	...	12
		Factories (including Bakehouses)	...	22
		Public Conveniences ... ..	...	37
		Refuse Disposal ... ..	...	15
		Rats and Mice Destruction ...	...	5
		Water Sampling ... ..	...	2
		Miscellaneous ... ..	...	7
HOUSING	{	Under Public Health Acts ...	...	5
		Under Housing Acts ... ..	...	54
		Overcrowding ... ..	...	1
		Miscellaneous ... ..	...	1
INFECTIOUS DISEASES	{	Inquiries into Cases .. ..	...	17
		Disinfection ... ..	...	16
		Miscellaneous ... ..	...	7
MEAT & FOOD	{	Slaughterhouses, etc. ... ..	...	472
		Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..	...	15
		Milk Samples ... ..	...	17
NOTICES	{	Informal served ... ..	...	5
		Informal complied with ...	...	4
		Statutory ... ..	...	nil.

## Shops and Offices.

No action was found necessary.

## Camping Sites.

1. No. of sites used for camping purposes ... .. 2
2. No. of sites used for camping purposes for which  
licences have been issued ... .. Nil
3. Estimated maximum number of campers resident at  
one time ... .. 20

## Smoke Abatement.

In the latter half of 1938, your Council co-operated in the formation of an Advisory Regional Smoke Abatement Council for Bristol and District, and has joined the new body.

It is hoped through its means to be able to take co-operative action with industry for the abatement of nuisance from smoke and grit.

## Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths open to the public in the District.

## Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action was found necessary.

## Schools.

All the Schools have a piped water supply from the public main.

No Schools were closed during the year due to outbreak of Infectious Disease.

## HOUSING.

### Number of new houses erected during the nine months to 31st December.

(i) By Local Authority, with State Assistance :

(a) Re-housing under Housing Act, 1936	...	Nil
(b) Overcrowding	... ..	6
(c) Other	... ..	Nil
Without State Assistance	... ..	Nil

(ii) By other bodies or persons :

(a) With State Assistance	... ..	Nil
(b) Without State Assistance	... ..	89

## I. Housing Inspections.

(i) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	42
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	60
(ii) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	... ..	3
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	7



(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	2
(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	1

## II. Housing Actions.

(a)	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of <i>informal</i> action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... ..	Nil
-----	--	--------	-----

## III. Action under Statutory Powers during the nine months.

### A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	1
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :		
(a)	By owners	... ..	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil

### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied		2
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :		
(a)	By owners	... ..	2
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil

### C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ..	Nil
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	Nil

### D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	Nil
(ii)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	Nil

#### IV. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the nine months	... ..	Nil
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	Nil
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	Nil
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ..	Nil
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the nine months	... ..	8
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	51
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	... ..	Nil
(e)		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report		Nil

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### Milk Supply.

Examination of Milk Samples is undertaken by the County Council, but your Sanitary Inspector collects the samples on their behalf.

Periodical examination of Dairies and Cowsheds is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

Primary Registration under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders is mainly carried out by the County Council, but one pasteurising licence has been issued by your Council.

#### Meat and other Foods.

A wholesale slaughterhouse is situated in the District, and this, with the retail ones, is visited regularly by your Sanitary Inspector: All beef carcasses and most of the others are examined. No ante-mortem inspection is done by your Officers.

## CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ..	407	427	151	1652	393
Number inspected ...	407	427	145	1239	370
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	1		—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	32		—	15	13
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affect- ed with disease other than tuberculosis ...	3.96		—	1.21	3.51
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	5		—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	233		—	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affect- ed with tuberculosis...	28.54		—	—	—

**Adulteration of Foods.**

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority.

**Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**

The County Laboratories are situated at Taunton.

**Nutrition.**

The County Health Visitor advises parents on her periodical visits.

**Shellfish.**

There are no shellfish beds in the District.

## **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

**Diphtheria Immunisation.**

I reported upon the desirability of this matter being put into operation, and I was pleased at the prompt manner in which the Council acted upon the advice offered.

The Scheme, in which your District takes part, is administered by the County Council, and provides:—

**(a) For children under five years of age.**

Local medical practitioners carry out the necessary immunisation, the materials being provided by the County Council and a fee paid for the work.

**(b) For children of school age.**

The school doctors test all children attending public elementary schools (unless the parents object) using the simple Schick test, and then offer to immunise all those found to be susceptible.

The County Council carry out the work, but the Urban Council provide the materials.



FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

*Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.*

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
FACTORIES with mechanical power	11	—	—
FACTORIES without mechanical power ... ..	11	—	—
Other Premises ... ..	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	22	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.				Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
				Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ... ..				1	1	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..				—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ... ..				—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ... ..				—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ... ..				—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences { Insufficient ... ..				—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective ... ..				—	—	—	—
{ not separate for sexes ... ..				—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..				—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...				1	1	—	—

No lists of outwork received.

In conclusion, I must thank you all, and my fellow officers, for the courtesy and consideration shown me during my short term of office.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

THOS. AUBREY.





